THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Help by foreign embassies in evacuation of Indians from South Yemen

454. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to the inaction of the Indian Ambassador in South Yemen, the Indians in Aden, the capital of South Yemen, faced great difficulties in getting out of that country during the recent infighting there;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Indians were helped by Embassies of countries like Soviet Union, France and Great Britain to get them out of South Yemen;

(c) if so, what is the number of Indians killed, injured and evacuated by the different foreign embassies; and

(d) whether Government have asked the South Yemen Government to pay compensation to the families of the Indians killed and injured during infighting in that country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) The Indian Ambassador was on home leave in India since December 1985. Other members of the staff of the Indian Embassy stayed at their post throughout the fighting and within the constraints of the violent internal disturbances did their best to assist members of the Indian communits. Friendly countries wers requested by the Government of India to assist Indians wishing to be evacuated.

(c) 11 Indian nationals were killed and four were reported injured. Approximately 425 Indian nationals were evacuated from People's Democratic Republic of Yemen till 24-1-86.

(d) Yes, Sir

Raising of Women's Battalion by CRPF

455. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI.
SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether CRPF is raising a women's battalion to tackle women outlaws including terrorists; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) CRPF is raising a women Bn. to deal with law and order situation arising out of participation by women agitators.

(b) The Bn. is in the process of being raised.

Efforts of India to convene conference on Indian Ocean

456. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are trying to convene a conference of the countries around Indian Ocean to declare the Indian Ocean a zone of peace;

(b) if so, what progress has been made in this regard and the number of countries who have expressed their desire to join such conference; and

(c) whether the US is putting hindrances in the way of convening the conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) India has made every effort to ensure the implementation of the 1971 UN Declaration on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace and work towards the convening of a Conference on the Indian Ocean with the Participation of the great powers, major maritime users and the littoral and hinterland States of the Indian Ocean.

(b) and (c) At the 40th Session of the UNGA, the UN *Ad-Hoc* Committee on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, of